

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512
www.energy.ca.gov



**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED NEGATIVE
DECLARATION FOR THE CHEMEHUEVI INDIAN TRIBE PROJECT
“DEMONSTRATION OF COMMUNITY SCALE GENERATION SYSTEM
AT THE CHEMEHUEVI COMMUNITY CENTER” (EPC-15-003)**

Project:

Grant EPC-15-003 for \$2,588,906 to the Regents of the University of California – Riverside, proposed under solicitation PON-14-307 of the Electric Program Investment Charge. The grant will be used to build a community scale energy generation system at the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe Community Center located in San Bernardino County.

Project Location:

1975 South Valley Mesa Road, Needles, California 92363

Lead Agency:

California Energy Commission
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
1516 Ninth Street, MS-15
Sacramento, California 95814

Public Review Period:

- September 9, 2015: Beginning of public review and comment period
- October 12, 2015: Last day of public review and comment period
- October 14, 2015: Energy Commission decision at a regularly scheduled public Business Meeting, beginning at 10:00 AM in Hearing Room A, 1516 Ninth Street, Sacramento, California 95814

Availability of Documents:

The Energy Commission Initial Study and proposed Negative Declaration are available at the following locations:

- Online, at www.energy.ca.gov/research/epic/environmental_review_documents.html
- At the California Energy Commission Library, located at 1516 Ninth Street, Sacramento, California 95814, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM
- At the Chemehuevi Community Center, located at 1975 South Valley Mesa Road, Needles (San Bernardino County), California 92363, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM

Brief Project Description:

Staff proposes that the Energy Commission enter into a \$2,588,906 million Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) grant agreement with the Regents of the University of California, Riverside, to construct and demonstrate a community energy generation system consisting of 90 kW solar photovoltaic system mounted on a newly constructed carport and a 60 kWh flow-battery energy storage integrated with energy management system. The project site is at the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe Community Center, 1975 South Valley Mesa Road, Needles, California 92363.

The Chemehuevi Indian Tribe is a federally recognized Native-American Tribe located in San Bernardino County, California. The construction of the project is on land that is self-governed by the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe, and therefore, is subject to Chemehuevi Indian Tribe's Tribal Ordinance, including environmental review.

Findings:

As described in the Initial Study, Energy Commission staff determines that the proposed project has no significant effect on the environment. Therefore, staff has prepared and recommends that the Energy Commission adopt the Negative Declaration for this project.

Public Comment:

This Notice of Intent to adopt the proposed Negative Declaration has been posted on site, in three locations at 1975 South Valley Mesa Road, Needles, California 92363 and off site at the Needles Post Office, 628 3rd Street, Needles, California 92363, and at the San Bernardino County Clerk, 385 N. Arrowhead Avenue, 2nd Floor, San Bernardino, CA 92415-0130.

Oral Comments

The Energy Commission will accept oral comments during the October 14, 2015 Business Meeting. Comments may be limited to three minutes per speaker. Any comments will become part of the public record.

Written Comments

Written comments are accepted during the public review period stated above. Please submit written comments to the Energy Commission by 5:00 p.m. on October 12, 2015. All written comments will become part of the public record of this proceeding. Additionally, written comments may be posted to the Energy Commission's website.

The Energy Commission encourages comments by e-mail. Please include your name and any organization name. Comments should be in a downloadable, searchable format such as Microsoft® Word (.doc) or Adobe® Acrobat® (.pdf). Please include the grant number **EPC-15-003** and indicate "**Regents of the University of California-Riverside-Negative Declaration**" in the subject line. Send comments to:

Rizaldo.Aldas@energy.ca.gov

If you prefer, you may send a paper copy of your comments to:

California Energy Commission
Energy Research and Development Division
Attention: Rizaldo Aldas

Re: EPC-15-003 Regents of the University of California-Riverside–Negative Declaration
1516 Ninth Street, MS-43
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Public Adviser and Other Commission Contacts:

The Energy Commission's Public Adviser provides the public assistance in participating in Energy Commission proceedings. If you want information on how to participate in this forum, please contact the Public Adviser's Office at PublicAdviser@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4489 (toll free at (800) 822-6228).

Media inquiries should be sent to the Media and Public Communications Office at mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4989.

If you have questions on the subject matter of this proceeding, please contact Rizaldo Aldas at Rizaldo.Aldas@energy.ca.gov or (916) 327-1417.

Original Signed by:

Laurie ten Hope
Deputy Director, Energy Research and Development Division
California Energy Commission